

**SOKOINE UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE
MOROGORO**



**COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES
RESEARCH AGENDA 2016 - 2025**

REVISED MAY 2022

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In 2016, after establishing the College of Social Sciences and Humanities (CSSH) at the Sokoine University of Agriculture, which occurred at the end of 2015, the College-wide research agenda was formulated for the period of ten years from 2016 to 2025. However, it is presumed that various developments may have occurred within five years of its implementation. As such, it is important to revise the research agenda for the forthcoming five years from 2021/22 to 2024/25. The revision is informed by new developments nationally and internationally. For example, nationally, Tanzania became a lower-middle-income country on 1st July 2020, and there are new development plans, mainly the Third Five-Year Development Plan (FYDP III), whose heyday is 2021/22 - 2025/26, and the Second Agricultural Development Programme (ASDP II) whose heyday is 2015/2016 – 2024/2025. At the international level, among the critical issues that inform the CSSH research agenda is the eruption of the Corona Virus Disease in late 2019 (COVID-19), which has disrupted the socioeconomic development of many countries, including Tanzania.

Revising the research agenda of the College is pertinent and timely to take on board such new issues in order to get empirical information to inform development interventions to contribute to the attainment of the nation's industrialization journey (2016-2056), whereby Tanzania envisages becoming an Upper Middle Income Country by 2036, and a Developed Country by 2066. This Research Agenda is also in line with the National Research and Development Policy (2010), the National Research Priorities (2015-2020), the Tanzania Development Vision 2025, the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030, the Higher Education and Training Policy 2014, and Poverty Reduction Strategy Programme (PRSP) (2010 – 2025).

At the university level, the CSSH research agenda contributes to the mainstream SUA's research policy of 2018 and is in keeping with the Mission of SUA as specified in the Act of establishing the University and SUA's Corporate Strategic Plan to the year 2022 and beyond. The policy, among other things, requires SUA to strengthen its research and extension or outreach capacity while providing leadership in developing the rural sector.

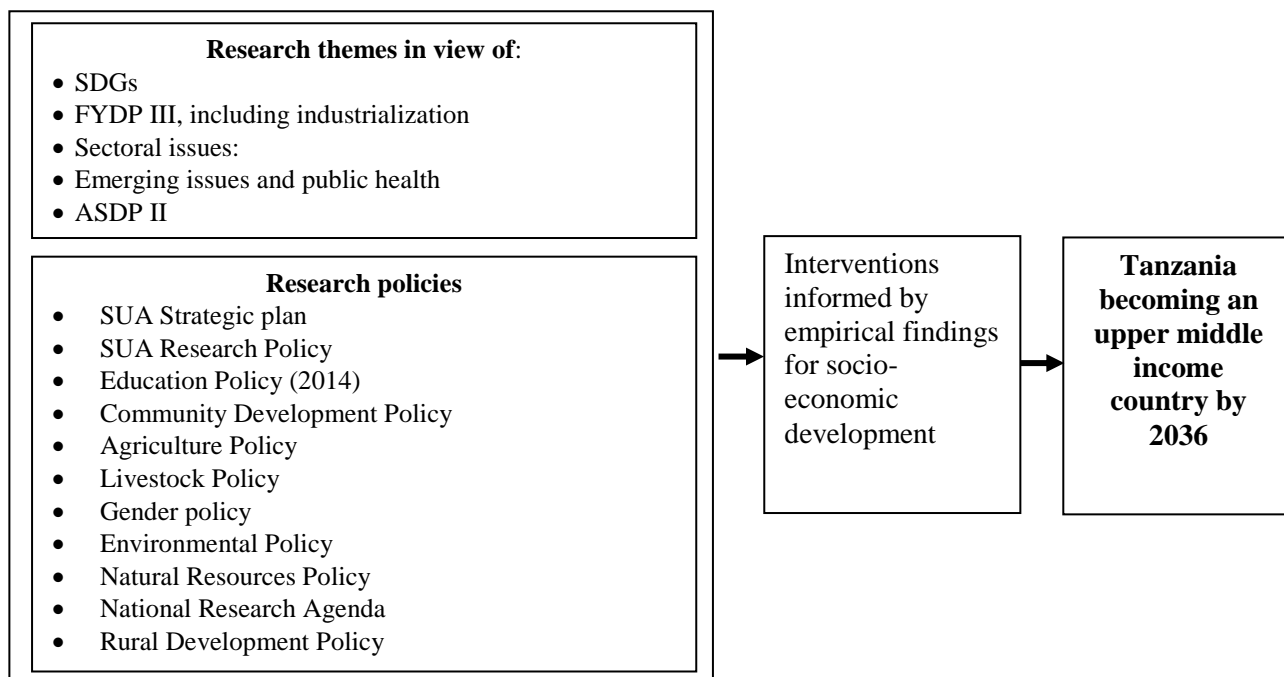


Figure 1: A framework for CSSH Research agenda revision

1.1 RESEARCH AGENDA

In view of Figure 1, a framework for the revised CSSH research agenda, this section presents research agenda items for the College of Social Sciences and Humanities. These agenda items are holistic by encompassing the research focus of the departments which comprise the CSSH and are presented in the order indicating what each department plans to do. However, it is worth noting that the list of issues is not exhaustive; more topical issues will emerge, and so the cross-cutting issues.

2.1 DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT AND STRATEGIC STUDIES

2.1 Population and Demography

2.1.1 Background information

The high population growth rate, brought about by high fertility, is a big challenge to sub-Saharan Africa, particularly Tanzania. Slowing down population growth and reducing fertility in Tanzania need a comprehensive understanding of the underlying causes of growth and its relationships with cultural drivers specific to Tanzanian society. While population study is concerned with the population variables, mortality, fertility, and migration, understanding the relationships between population variables and their linkage with social, cultural, economic, political, biological, genetic, and geographical factors is crucial.

2.1.2 Goal

This research agenda aims to analyze population variables and their linkages with development indicators to inform interventions to bring about development with the population variables in the mainstream. Particularly, the following items will be researched:

- i. Understand the relationships between poverty, inequality, and demographic processes, e.g., fertility and poverty, spatial inequities in fertility and poverty, as well as institutions such as policies, legislation, and norm that govern and shape these interactions;
- ii. Studies on youth transition to adulthood (sequence of event markers such as first birth, first marriage, first employment - financial independence, housing independence);
- iii. Analysis of the impact of affirmative action funds on youth development in both rural and urban areas;
- iv. Studies on climate change, human migration, and health outcomes of men and women;
- v. Evaluation of social protection systems for older persons – e.g., cash transfer programmes;
- vi. A comprehensive study of old-age pension systems with particular reference to gender issues in society, including its linkages with demographic events; and
- vii. Evaluation of the integration of postpartum family planning services with other interventions – such as child vaccination and control of HIV infection – to improve health care and uptake of family planning services

2.2 Poverty Analysis

2.2.1 Background information

"*Leave No One Behind*" (LNOB) is one of the guiding principles of the UN Agenda 2030 and its SDGs. The principle requires that the Agenda's goals and targets be met for all nations, people, and all segments of society, even reaching those left behind the furthest by poverty. It requires that every single person be included in the rate of progress since many of the poverty barriers people face in accessing services, resources, and equal opportunities are not simply accidents of fate or a lack of availability of resources but rather the result of discriminatory laws, policies and social practices that leave particular groups of people increasingly far behind into poverty. Women and girls are often at the

top of the "most marginalized" list. LNOB focuses on tackling the structural causes of poverty, inequality, and marginalization. It requires a collective effort to identify and share effective strategies to operationalize this concept. The Fourth SUA's Corporate Strategic Plan (2016 - 2021) commitment to mainstream (gender equality in teaching, learning, and research) is part of its Equality and Inclusion Policy, for which an action plan was developed in the National Five Year Development Plan (2021/22 - 2025/26) that revolve on "*Realizing Competitiveness and Industrialization for Human Development*" that focused on Tanzania Development Vision 2025.

2.2.2 Research Goal

Research under this theme will generate national and local objective measurement and empirical information on poverty's nature, causes, and repercussions. The information to be generated will inform strategies to eradicate absolute poverty based on monetary and non-monetary indicators. Therefore, CSSH identifies the following as areas of research interest:

- i. Methods of measuring poverty and their implications for poverty reduction;
- ii. Poverty reduction and economic empowerment;
- iii. Poverty reduction strategies and implications of having equal rights to economic resources and access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology, and financial services, including microfinance;
- iv. Exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social, and environmental shocks and disasters;
- v. Development policies and institutional analyses and their implications for poverty reduction;
- vi. Governance, democracy, and democratization;
- vii. Rural and urban development;
- viii. Peace and conflict resolutions; and
- ix. Social development and social integration.

2.3 Agricultural Development and Food Security

2.3.1 Background information

Most sub-Saharan African countries, including Tanzania, are agriculture-based countries where agriculture contributes an average of about 32% to the GDP, unlike industrialized and transforming countries where it contributes about 5% and 7% respectively to the

GDP (World Bank, 2008). This means that; although the construction, manufacturing, and services sectors are growing in Tanzania, agriculture will remain a mainstay of the economy of Tanzania for many years to come, being the most important source of food and supplier of raw materials for some local factories and significant activity for earning income for households and foreign exchange for the nation. In addition, food security based on the national monetary poverty line that was TZS 26,085 per adult equivalent per month in 2012 prices declined from 21.6% in 1991/92 to 9.7% in 2011/12, which was more than meeting the target of halving the undernourished people between 1990 and 2015. However, food insecurity still lingers in some areas. Therefore, it is important to research on agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists, and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources, and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment.

2.3.2 Goal

Under this theme, the research issues are:

- i. Levels of food security among people living in various locations and having various main economic activities in terms of dietary energy consumed, dietary diversity, and Household Food Insecurity Access Scale (HFIAS);
- ii. Determinants of countries in sub-Saharan Africa not spending at least 10% of their national budgets on agriculture and implications of this; and
- iii. Determining changing levels of agricultural productivity and food insecurity and determinants of the same to inform interventions to increase agricultural productivity and food security;

2.4 Socioeconomic Aspect of Environmental and Natural Resources Management

2.4.1 Background information

Access, management, and control over natural resources are central issues to people's livelihoods worldwide. Although the details of natural resource management and their application to agricultural challenges may depend more on natural science, economic and social policies also have a substantial role in providing incentives and disincentives for managing natural resources in sustainable and profitable ways. Successful management of natural resources also needs to be considered at multiple levels: from the human scale of the household and small farm to larger arenas such as watersheds.

However, while efforts to mitigate climate change impacts have extensively dealt with agriculture, forestry, and rural livelihoods, there is limited information and data on climate change mitigation and adaptation in cities across Tanzania. Cities have the potential to be major catalysts of change in the implementation of recent international agreements such as the Paris Agreement, the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, the New Urban Agenda, and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. Actions to address climate change through adaptation and mitigation at the city level will make crucial contributions to the national efforts to fulfil international commitments.

Thus, along with the analysis of livelihoods and land-use change, agriculture, natural resources governance, energy, environment, and cultural and social impacts of community activities, the CSSH research agenda must include a range of cross-cutting issues underpin efforts to respond to climate change in cities. These include the capacity of local institutions, the interconnectivity of different sectors, and scale and data availability impacts. There are knowledge gaps related to methodology and understanding for each of these foundational issues that would benefit from better uptake of existing science and knowledge and sustainable development of settlement in urban areas.

2.1.4.2 Goal

This research theme aims to generate empirical information on environment and natural resources management to support interventions aimed at building a sustainable future in line with national and global frameworks. Therefore, the **key** research issues are:

Governance and institutions

- i. investigate the differential distribution of power among diverse actors and how this shapes their capacity to act in response to climate change;
- ii. investigate how transformative climate change responses can address urban inequalities and ensure inclusive modes of governance; and
- iii. analyze different forms of governance, including multilevel governance, which can best support climate action across a highly uneven institutional landscape in urban settings.
- iv. analyze natural resource governance, including water, land, forest, etc

Informal settlement and business

- i. how inhabitants of both informal settlements and slums are particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change;
- ii. relationship between climate change and the informal economy to understand how to increase the adaptive capacity of informal sectors and how to scale up low-carbon and climate-resilient solutions from and for the informal sector;
- iii. connections between urban planning, design and infrastructure and climate change mitigation and adaptation actions adopted by urban dwellers;
- iv. how urban micro-climates integrate into urban planning and design to simultaneously improve urban environmental outcomes, reduce risk and address the need to adapt to and mitigate climate change; and
- v. understand potential pathways for social changes that promote lifestyles and cultures which are less resource-intensive and that increase adaptive capacity and wellbeing

CSSH's research topics under the natural resource management theme include sustainable agriculture. Farmers are 'stewards' of natural resources; they utilize soil, water, and ecosystems to produce food and fiber and manage, preserve, and improve them for future generations. In this role, they face a challenge to balance the use of natural resources for economic production while maintaining the value and productivity of land, water, and ecological systems (ecosystems) and resources in the long term, both on and off-farm. CSSH focuses on research that will provide a holistic solution to natural resources management for sustainable agriculture and hence sustainable development through research on managing natural resources and climate change in agriculture, provision of education and training opportunities for rural development specialists with Bachelors, Masters, and Doctoral degrees, advisory services to farmers and various stakeholders in addressing and adapting to climate change and its impacts on agriculture, and advising the government from an agriculture perspective on natural resources management for sustainable agriculture. Research in CSSH under this theme will focus on natural resources and sustainable development, including natural resources-nature and scarcity; issues and challenges; concepts of environmental and natural resource economics; issues of market efficiency; equity issues; use of economic instruments; natural resource accounting and valuation; and models of resource depletion/ exhaustible and renewable resources. In addition, issues of governance of natural resources, the political economy of resources use, conflicts over resource use, climate change and

natural resources use, adaptation to climate change, and linkage between climate change for agricultural development.

2.5 Human Development, Competitiveness, and Inequality

2.5.1 Background information

Human Development Index (HDI) in Tanzania improved from 0.52 in 2015 to 0.528 in 2018, above the average of 0.507 for countries in the low human development group. However, it is still less than the HDI in most developed countries, which is 0.8 or above. When the HDI is disaggregated into its components, it is evident that Tanzania has made substantial achievements in life expectancy (from 63.1 years in 2015 to 66.0 years in 2019). The literacy rate has also improved, whereby Expected Years of Schooling have gone up from 5.3 in 2010 to 8.0 in 2019, and Mean Years of Schooling have gone up from 5.1 years to 6.0 years over the same period. Other human development indices that show significant improvements include: Gender Inequality Index - which improved (declined) from 0.556 in 2013 to 0.539 in 2019, and Gender Development Index - the Gap in HDI between women and men has remained stable at around 0.936 over the period 2015 to 2019. Inequality in Tanzania has been low. For example, in terms of Gini coefficients, national, rural, and urban income inequalities have been 0.34, 0.29, and 0.37 (Five Year Development Plan II, p. 65). Therefore, efforts are needed to keep up and increase the level that has been attained.

2.5.2 Research goal

The research issues under this research theme are to:

- i. determine economic inequality based on an unequal distribution of income or wealth;
- ii. levels of HDI and their determinants in various geographical locations;
- iii. studying social disparities in terms of assets, social power, and political power;
- iv.** determine levels of competitiveness in various occupations, including in industry, construction, and services provision;
- v. Determine, monitor, and check inequality, so it is not aggravated in implementing interventions to reduce poverty.

2.6 Gender and Development

2.6.1 Background information

Gender inequality persists in all aspects of people's lives and is acknowledged to be a significant obstacle to socioeconomic as well as political development. Gender inequality is the underlying cause of low productivity as it hampers the participation of at least half of the population. A broad and deeper understanding of how gender relations structure a society's social institutions that affect the definition and realization of its population's development goals need analysis. Examining gender-related obstacles and opportunities in a range of development contexts is important.

2.6.2 Goal

The goal is to analyze gender issues in various sectors to find gender gaps that should be filled in to bring about equitable development. Therefore, the following issues require empirical evidence from research to generate evidence that will guide policy and practices:

- i. Gender equality in education, agriculture, and use of resources;
- ii. Women's rights for sexuality and health, reproductive health for women and adolescent boys and girls;
- iii. Politics of participation, inclusion, and diversity in development activities;
- iv. Empowerment of women and men, gender mainstreaming into policies, strategies, programmes, and plans;
- v. HIV/AIDS and its impact, stigma, and discrimination mitigation; and
- vi. Gender and human rights.

2.7 Economic Growth and Development

2.7.1 Background information

The National Five Year Development Plan (2021/22 - 2025/26) revolves on "*Realizing Competitiveness and Industrialization for Human Development*" and is aligned with the Tanzania Development Vision 2025. These areas shall offer a critical analysis of the "economic orthodox" approach to development, which African governments initiated in the 1970s and the 1980s. However, it is now suggested that the "social development" approach is a more helpful approach toward development. The discourse basically critiques the Growth orthodox model adopted. The Orthodox Development view equates economic growth with "development." This approach to human progress has been

critiqued consistently by economists such as Dambisa Moyo, with the main criticisms being that the approach is ethnocentric and one-dimensional.

2.7.2 Goal

Under this theme, the goal is to determine changing levels of the recent experiences of African countries with rapid economic growth but growing unemployment, income inequality, social exclusion, and the like. This experience squares more satisfactorily with an alternative disequilibrium interpretation of the development process. Therefore, CSSH identifies the following as key areas of research under this theme:

- i. Economic growth and social progress;
- ii. Social development and social integration;
- iii. Qualitative measures of economic growth;
- iv. Infrastructure, energy, and action;
- v. Economic growth and poverty reduction;
- vi. Industrialization and economic growth;
- vii. Development policies and legislation;
- viii. Policy instruments steer locally-cantered analysis for inclusive policies that reduce economic inequality and poverty and promote sustainable and equitable development;
- ix. Approaches to sustainable economic development;
- x. Cultural practices and barriers to sustainable economic development; and
- xi. Regional cooperation, integration, and globalization.

2.8 Rural Development

2.8.1 Background information

Agriculture remains central to Tanzania's industrialization and a source of livelihood for approximately 65.0% of the population. Therefore, for the duration of the National Five Year Development Plan (2021/22 - 2025/26), efforts are directed to consolidate and further scale up the achievements recorded and explore opportunities afforded by adopting Climate Smart Agriculture approaches (CSA).

Furthermore, the rural sector in Tanzania accounts for a large proportion of the population. The overwhelming majority of the population is engaged in agriculture and allied occupations. However, economic diversification has changed the rural economic landscape bringing various non-farm activities to the rural areas. Community-driven

approaches and efforts are among possible courses to pursue development in this globalized trade and knowledge economy age. Deprivations are prevalent in rural health, education, economics, and other social services. There are multiple other issues, including land use, planning, and management; inadequate infrastructure (transport, storage, markets, water, and energy); illiteracy, and other rural specific issues for particular rural setups.

2.8.2 Goal

Poverty in Tanzania is largely a rural phenomenon; absolute and relative poverty is more serious in rural settings. Therefore, innovative research on rural poverty alleviation, especially on the best models, frameworks, and approaches to reduce incidences and severity of poverty across rural areas, is urgently needed. Cognizant of this, CSSH identifies the following key research areas:

- i. Forward and backward linkages between the agricultural sector and other economic sectors;
- ii. Agrarian reforms: policies, laws, regulations;
- iii. Rural industrialization, job creation, and allied opportunities;
- iv. Population, land use, and practices;
- v. The role of community-based organizations (CBOs) and civil society organizations (CSOs);
- vi. Agricultural marketing and Value Addition;
- vii. The political economy of rural development;
- viii. Factors for transforming agriculture and the rural sector;
- ix. Factors for the declining agricultural growth and productivity in Tanzania;
- x. Small-scale versus large-scale farming models

2.9 Emerging Public Issues

2.9.1 Background information

The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak has created a global health crisis that profoundly impacts how we perceive our world and everyday lives. Likewise, in the face of the global crisis caused by Covid-19, it has become evident that our world is deeply interconnected and that global solutions are needed more than ever. "*Interconnectedness*" is one of the principles at the heart of Agenda 2030, pointing to the fact that all 17 SDGs are interlinked and mutually influence each other. To accelerate progress towards realizing the Agenda, a more integrated approach that addresses

multiple goals simultaneously is needed, rather than narrow, sectoral approaches that focus on one goal, or a minimal subset of goals, at a time. Furthermore, the importance of transnational approaches is underscored by the interlinked and universal nature of the global challenges to sustainable development. Likewise, the principle of "*multi-stakeholder partnership*" at the heart of Agenda 2030 promotes cooperation and partnerships at different stages and spanning the boundaries of civil society, private sector, government, and academia. The concerted effort of various stakeholders is required, given the complexity, scale, and interconnectedness of the current societal challenges.

2.9.2 Goal

Research under this theme will generate national and global level objectives since "*Interconnectedness*" and "*multi-stakeholder partnership*" are a strong instrument for achieving development goals, as stakeholders have "unique complementary strengths" that add value to development efforts and allow them to pool their resources and assets in solving problems, thereby creating sustainable and significant impact at all levels of action. Therefore, the CSSH identifies the following as key areas of research interest:

- i. Misinformation, myths, and misconceptions of Covid-19 on social media platforms (broadcast and digital) in Tanzania;
- ii. Socioeconomic impact assessment of Covid-19 pandemic in Tanzania;
- iii. Media impact and its role during Covid-19 pandemic in Tanzania;
- iv. Improving communications around vaccine breakthroughs and vaccine effectiveness;
- v. The role(s) of the different mass media channels (broadcast and digital) in our lives at individual, social and societal levels;
- vi. To map mass media (broadcast and digital) major impacts on how we perceive ourselves, both as individuals and citizens;
- vii. The flexibility and ubiquity of media technologies to increase the public's adherence to the safety measures suggested by global health organizations to combat the spread of COVID-19, foster positive health attitudes and adherence to preventive measures; and
- viii. Population, health, and environment.

3.0 DEPARTMENT OF POLICY, PLANNING, AND MANAGEMENT

3.1 Policies related to the use of natural resources

3.1.1 Background information

It requires a proper understanding of policies for solving problems and issues associated with using natural resources to achieve sustainable development. Natural resource use issues have been at the Centre of policy debates and environmental justice movements. Development requires not only better global economic conditions but also how policy environment supports economic growth, for example, in a way that advocates for a cleaner environment through sustainable use of natural resources such as land, water, soil, energy, and minerals and their security at both the global and national levels.

3.1.1.1 Goal

Research under this theme aims to analyze natural resource management policies to generate empirical information for sustainable development. The key research areas for this theme will include;

- i. Sustainable resource use, management, and protection
- ii. Policy processes and history of natural resource policies
- iii. Institutions for natural resource management
- iv. Sustainable development of natural resources
- v. Evaluation of programs that aim to protect and regulate natural resources

3.2 Policy Analysis and Strategic Studies

3.2.1 Background information

Having good policies and implementing them for a desired socioeconomic development are two different things. Since the Tanzania Development Vision 2025 (TDV 2025) was promulgated in 1999 with an ambitious goal to make abject poverty a thing of the past by 2025, there have been medium-term strategies to realize the vision. The strategies mainly include, the Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS), whose heyday was 2000/01 to 2003/04, the First Phase of the National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (NSGRP I, 2005/06 – 2009/10), the Second Phase of the National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (NSGRP II, 2010/11 – 2014/15 with an extension to 2015/16), the First Five Year Development Plan (FYDP I) (2011/12 - 2015/16), and the Second Five Year Development Plan (FYDP II) (2016/17 - 2020/21), the Third Five Year Development Plan (FYDP III) (2021/22 - 2025/26). There are also several sectoral policies and strategies. Knowledge of the policies and strategies, their implementation, and reasons

for success and/or failure of some of them have the potential to inform plans to improve them for national development

3.2.1.1 Goal

The goal of this research agenda item is to analyze public, social, and sectoral policies and strategies with their linkage to governance and socioeconomic development to obtain empirical information on which to base suggestions for improvement of policies and strategies, suggesting others for repeal, and formulation of some new ones in view of national, regional, and international events, to speed up Tanzania's development beyond TDV 2025. The issues for research under this theme will include;

- i. Study on historical perspective and causes of contemporary social problems
- ii. Contribution of large data sets/big data to public policy as well as analyzing how data, including performance data and also social data, is being used to steer public policy
- iii. Citizens' engagement with policymakers in the policy process.
- iv. Analysis of sound policy frameworks at the national, regional, and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender sensitivity
- v. Operational and strategic management in national and international organizations
- vi. Analysis of budget and development policy, programs, and strategies
- vii. Analysis of current public policy challenges, including those related to energy, food security, poverty, public health, and conservation
- viii. Develop innovative policy solutions to complex problems in changing policy environments
- ix. Study the interactions among the policy-making bodies

3.3 Development Planning and Management

3.3.1 Background information

The contribution of research to rural development and planning cannot be overemphasized. The study's main goal is to serve as an instrument to improve rural people's living standards by stimulating growth and increasing productivity in critical productive sectors of the rural economy. The rural sector in Tanzania hosts a large segment of the population and employs 66.9% of the people in the agricultural sector. However, most of the crops produced undergo minimum processing and value addition. In this view, the drive to achieve rural development, which is intended to improve the livelihood of the majority of Tanzanians, will not be realized if we do not overcome the development challenges facing rural communities, such as the provision of social

services; poverty reduction; market infrastructure, value addition and rural finance (MIVARF); income inequality reduction, equipping rural people with entrepreneurship skills and rural industrialization, to mention a few. In this context, rural development planning at the College of Social Sciences and Humanities (CSSH) is focused more on strategic decisions to intervene in these challenges through research.

3.3.1.1 Goal

The goal is to stimulate growth and increase productivity in critical productive sectors of the rural economy through proper rural development planning to address poverty and improve people's wellbeing. Specifically, the rural development planning research agenda at CSSH is focused on the following key research areas.

- i. Productivity growth in the rural sector, income inequality, and provision of social services;
- ii. Rural industrialization and the role of institutions in rural development;
- iii. Entrepreneurship, SMEs, technology innovation, trade, and market linkages in the rural sector;
- iv. Poverty reduction, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and post-Millennium Development Goals; and
- v. Citizens' involvement in the planning and execution of the development projects

3.4 Good governance for sustainable development

3.4.1 Background information

Good governance plays a vital role in development. Still, in Tanzania, institutional clashes hamper the implementation of several projects, e.g., the Eco-energy Project in Bagamoyo and the expansion of the Dar es Salaam seaport. In view of this fact, the FYDP II includes plans to strengthen accountability systems and institutions responsible for managing fiscal policy and attendant procedures and mechanisms for budgetary management (URT, 2016: 23).

3.4.1.1 Goal

Research on good governance for sustainable development is important to determine institutional factors enhancing and those constraining development. So, through empirical research, evidence-based recommendations can be generated to enhance good governance for sustainable development. Issues for research under this theme include;

- i. Various forms of corruption and bribery and how to control them;
- ii. Effectiveness, accountability, and transparency of institutions;
- iii. Responsiveness, the rule of law, inclusiveness, participatory and representative decision-making making process;
- iv. Participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance;
- v. Public access to information and protection of fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements; and

3.5 Natural resource use conflict and conflict management

3.5.1 Background

Tanzania has witnessed many diverse and recurrent conflicts involving various actors and sectors. These include conflicts between farmers and pastoralists, investors and farmers, investors and pastoralists, etc. These conflicts have claimed the lives of farmers, pastoralists, investors, and others and created a sense of insecurity and hostility. In some areas, production activities have stopped, and properties, including houses and livestock, have been set to fire and destroyed, leaving people poor and food insecure. Various efforts have been attempted to address the conflict but have not managed to contain the conflicts. Therefore, there is a need for a thorough understanding of conflicts and their causes and assessing mechanisms that various stakeholders have undertaken to address conflicts.

3.5.1.1 Goal

Research under this theme aims to study resource use conflicts, their causes, and consequences and assess ways to address the conflicts. This will enable the generation of findings that would be used to recommend policy measures to manage conflicts effectively. Specifically, the research will focus on;

- i. Roots, nature, repercussions, and resolution of conflicts over natural resource use
- ii. Natural resource governance
- iii. Natural resources conflict management
- iv. Natural resources conflict transformation
- v. Actors in natural resource governance

3.6 Human Resource Management

3.6.1 Background

Human resources are the most critical resources without which no organization can attain its goals and objectives. Managing human resources is a very crucial aspect that has always remained an essential developmental facet, much as HRM deals with "the science and the practice that deals with the nature of the employment relationship and all of the decisions, actions, and issues that relate to that relationship" (Ferris, Rosen and Barnum 1995:1). Effective HRM initiatives, *inter alia*, should target addressing employment relationships. Healthy industrial relations are key to organizational progress. Without good industrial/labor relations, organizations will find themselves amid disputes with demoralized workers. This scenario can adversely affect industrial harmony, a prerequisite for productivity. Mismanagement of human resources has always marked the difference between organizational failure and success. Ineffective management of human resources directly results in poor labor/industrial relations, which manifests in wastages, interruption of production, demoralization of the workers, and increasing industrial disputes, among others which affect the performance of the likelihood of an organization attaining its goals and objectives. Thus, it remains imperative for researchers to explore human resource practices and activities to understand the extent of success or failure of policies and practices related to HRM. Research on HRM activities provides an understanding of what does and does not work, what needs to change, and the nature and extent of change.

3.6.5.1 Goal

Overall, this research agenda focuses on identifying the strengths and gaps in knowledge, mapping important intellectual boundaries in the field of HRM, and outlining current and future research agendas and how these should inform HRM practice. The following are the key thematic area that the HRM research will focus on;

- i. Creating Conducive Work Environment: Motivation, Job Satisfaction, Quality of work-life, and Communication
- ii. Emerging Issues in Management: Outsourcing, Personnel Information Systems, and Corporate Social Responsibilities
- iii. Human Resources Planning
- iv. Workplace wellbeing
- v. Leadership
- vi. Human resource productivity

- vii. Recruiting employees
- viii. Employees compensation systems
- ix. Human resources compliance
- x. Organizational structure
- xi. Human resources information systems
- xii. Employee training and development
- xiii. Employment relations
- xiv. Trade union roles in human resource management
- xv. Performance management and appraisal

4.0 DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE STUDIES

4.1 Methodological Intervention to English Language Teacher Training

4.1.1 Background Information

English Language Teaching (ELT) has undergone significant changes worldwide toward a more communicative direction. The main focus of ELT has changed from what the teacher does to what the learners will be able to do. Such changes have implications for the way English language teachers are being prepared. In particular, teacher trainees need to get exposed to new theoretical perspectives and principles of language and English language teaching. In addition, the trainees need to have an in-depth and practical understanding of the English language and the language learning process. Unfortunately, the existing English language teacher training approaches used in Tanzania do not reflect the highlighted needs of the changing field of English Language Teaching. For example, the methodological approaches used in Tanzanian teacher training institutions do not combine practical English language teaching training with the current issues and theories within English language and education. The focus of the existing approaches has been on the general understanding of the English language with little or no emphasis on the practical knowledge of English Language Teaching. Therefore, if teacher trainees have to get exposed to the English language and the language learning process, it is pertinent to build the capacity of tutors directly involved in preparing teachers in the teacher training colleges.

4.1.1.1 Goal

In this research theme, the focus shall be on methodological approaches employed by English language tutors in Tanzanian teacher training colleges and the effectiveness of

these approaches at the operational level (i.e., at primary and secondary schools). In particular, CSSH research under this theme will focus on:

- i. Exploring how the English language is learned and how it can be most effectively taught.
- ii. Assessing how English language teaching methods evolved to reflect changes in society and larger schools of thought
- iii. Determining how learning styles and strategies impact teaching and learning the English language.
- iv. Designing appropriate methodological approaches for English language tutors in Tanzanian teacher training colleges.
- v. Exploring in what ways can technology facilitate the process of language teaching and learning
- vi. Studies on new theoretical perspectives and principles of language and the practice of English language teaching
- vii. Studies on building the capacity of tutors in colleges to be able to combine both practical training in English Language Teaching with the current issues and theories within the fields of English language and education

4.2 Enhancing the Quality of Teaching and Learning through Improved English Language Teaching and Educational Management Skills

4.2.1 Background Information

In Tanzania, the English language is used as a medium of instruction from secondary to higher education. Except for private English-medium schools and a few public primary schools where English is used as a medium of instruction, the rest of the primary schools in the country teach the English Language as a subject. This approach to English language use in Tanzanian schools has caused a severe problem for students transitioning from primary to secondary education. They experience a sharp shift from using Swahili as a Language of Instruction (LoI) to English. The change of the LoI has often created a learning gap because students face difficulties in communicating by using the language of instruction, consequently failing to cope well with the secondary curriculum. Studies have also revealed that language contributes to poor performance in the final secondary examinations. Such language problems have a cyclic effect because school leavers with poor language skills and competencies ultimately join tertiary education, including teacher training colleges and universities. The language deficiencies are carried over. The English language problem is confined to primary and secondary

schools and universities, where students and lecturers face difficulties using English. Studies have indicated deficiencies in the teaching and learning the English language and shortfalls in educational management skills.

4.2.1.1 Goal

The overall research goal in this thematic area is to investigate how English language teaching and educational management skills can be integrated to enhance the quality of teaching, hence improved education at all levels of education.

- i. Understanding the relationship between the Language of Instruction (LoI), English, and students' achievement or academic outcome.
- ii. Determining how does the LoI (English) influence the teaching and learning process
- iii. Studies on enhancing quality through effective English language teaching and proper educational management skills
- iv. Determining the link between English language teaching and educational management skills and how it can enhance education quality.
- v. Exploring obstacles to learning that result from transiting from primary to secondary education, where there is a sharp shift from using Swahili as an LoI to English to improve the quality of education.

4.3 The role of language and education in promoting industrialization

4.3.1 Background information

The Sokoine University of Agriculture and its College of Social Sciences and Humanities are strategically positioned to improve the livelihoods of Tanzanians through agricultural training and research. This is in line with the current move of the nation towards industrialization, which is dependent upon all other sectors, including agriculture. Modern agriculture is needed to produce raw materials required for the envisaged industries. To have modern agriculture, in which farmers use improved seeds and modern agricultural tools, there must be well trained to spearhead the modernization process, such as extension officers and the farmers themselves. These people have to undergo training in colleges and universities to acquire the knowledge, skills, and competencies needed to modernize agriculture. The English language plays a significant role in learning in schools, colleges, and universities because it serves as a vehicle through which the knowledge, skills, and competencies are shared. Therefore, for sustainable industrialization to occur, language and education should be integrated into the process.

4.3.1.1 Goal

In this thematic area, the goal is to investigate the role of language and education in promoting the industrialization process to achieve sustainable industrialization, hence national development. Specifically, CSSH research under this theme will focus on:

- i. Exploring how multilingualism influences exports, and innovation for industrialization
- ii. Studies that link linguistic biodiversity and economic development for industrialization
- iii. Studies on how languages can help build trade relations for opening up raw materials and industrial goods markets.

4.4 Translation and interpretation

Tanzania aims to transform its economy into a middle-income country as a developing country. In so doing, the government encourages local and international investors to invest in various sectors such as tourism, industry, mining, agriculture, etc. The transformation goes together with establishing infrastructures, for example, Standard Gauge Railway, roads, and aviation, among others. This has led to a massive influx of foreigners in the country, and economic activities have become more sophisticated. As such, language acts as a bridge among those who engage in a business transaction. Also, most of the technology used is available in English, but very few Tanzanians use and speak English. Again, due to the power of Kiswahili, foreign investors also need Kiswahili and or English to operate their business smoothly. Under this situation, to be able to communicate, and as a country, to achieve her development agenda and overcome communication challenges, Tanzania needs to invest in translation and interpretation activities.

4.4.1 Goal

This thematic area aims to explore how translation and interpretation can enhance the country's move in regional and international cooperation. Specifically, the CSSH research agenda will focus on:

- i. Studies on multimedia translation and translation and technology
- ii. Exploring the role of translation and interpretation in improving cooperation
- iii. Assessing how translation and interpretation services can act as a bridge between experts,

laypeople, and societies.

- iv. Studies on exploring the scope of using machine translation by the translation industry and what software translators use in the industry

5.0 DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY

5.1 Background Information

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology was formed to respond to the University-wide restructuring initiatives, which started in 2016. It was formed to enhance the College of Social Sciences and Humanities in establishing and running social sciences programmes in sociology and anthropology. The department anticipates undertaking research in the following thematic areas:

5.2 Social security and protection systems

5.2.1 Background information

In Tanzania, as in other countries, there are policies and programmes for social protection for

poor and vulnerable groups. This research agenda will investigate the policies and programmes

available for protecting vulnerable children, women, youth and people with disabilities, the elderly, and emergency programmes during natural calamities. The research agenda will also

take care of the social security schemes, the investments they make as well as the benefits

offered to its members.

5.2.2 Goal

This research agenda will investigate the policies and programmes available to protect vulnerable children, women, youth and people with disabilities, the elderly, and emergency programmes during natural calamities. The research agenda will also take care of the social security schemes, their investments, and the benefits offered to its members.

5.3 Social services planning and administration

5.3.1 Background

Information on social services planning and administration is key to national development. The services like health, water, transport, and electricity, just to mention a few, involve much planning and administration for the welfare of the people. For example, how are the people made better-off or worse off in implementing various interventions in various social services?

5.3.2 Goal

In this thematic area, an assessment of various projects on social services will be conducted; the social service projects planning processes, execution of the projects, successes, and challenges.

5.4 Social Change and Changing Social Structures

5.4.1 Background information

Social change and generally changing social structures have affected social behaviors. Therefore, the research agenda on this item should be able to see society as both a stable and changing social structure. On the other hand, the significance of globalization in understanding contemporary societies cannot be underestimated.

5.4.2 Goal

This research agenda will uncover the social change and changing social structures and their impact on the development. The research focus will include:

- i. Impact of single parenthood on valueless child upbringing
- ii. Social change, crime, and violence
- iii. Drug abuse
- iv. Homosexuality
- v. The effect of migration on economic development,
- vi. Formation of identities, migration, and conflict,
- vii. Forces of social change

5.5 Indigenous knowledge

5.5.1 Background information

The development of science and technology has negatively impacted the natural environment; on the other hand, there are efforts to bounce back to nature. However, the efforts need indigenous knowledge and its contribution to the development initiatives.

5.5.2 Goal

This research agenda will investigate the indigenous knowledge generation, storage, and transmission from one generation to another.

5.6 Corporate social responsibility

5.6.1 Background information

The theme focus on how transnational trading activities are conducted in Tanzania and the connections to the world through networks and flows of people, commodities, and knowledge. Research from this theme will yield new perspectives on how to trade while facilitating the exchange of commodities and does or does not simultaneously promote the transfer of practices, ideas, and identities.

5.6.2 Goal

The research will cover a range of social, ethnic, and political backgrounds and work in different settings across the country and beyond.

5.7 Analysis of popular culture

5.7.1 Background information

Popular culture sets a context in which stereotypes are formed. Such stereotypes are likely to impact society negatively.

5.7.2 Goal

This research theme aims to study popular culture and how it changes over time. The research agenda on this aspect will focus on the following:

- i Popular culture and power differentials (in Tanzania)
- ii Popular culture, migration, and changing culture
- iii Popular culture, migration, diversity, and conflict
- iv The influence of mass media on popular culture

7.8 Sociology of agriculture and food systems

7.8.1 Background

The agriculture sector is still an engine for economic development in Tanzania. The sector employs a large majority of the labor force and accounts for about one-quarter of gross domestic product. Although some progress has been made, the sector is characterized by a low growth rate, which partly hampers its contribution to reducing

poverty and ensuring food security for all people. Thus, various programmes for achieving agricultural development are being implemented across the country. Although agricultural development is desired, changes in agricultural structure, one of the many outcomes of agricultural development, may have both positive and negative impacts on society. The sociology of agriculture and food system research agenda describes and addresses agricultural development issues and their impact on society.

7.8.2 Goal

This research agenda aims to stimulate critical thinking on various agricultural development models and their impact on society. More specifically, it covers issues related to the contribution of sociology toward achieving agricultural sustainability. Also, it focuses on agricultural changes and food system development, focusing on an individual, family, farm, community, and environmental impact. Furthermore, it is concerned with the epistemological nature of how key players in agriculture and food systems promote or resist certain agricultural development models (for instance, "family farm" and the industrialization of agriculture).

7.9 Environmental sociology

7.9.1 Background

Humans need to interact with the environment to obtain food, water, fuel, medicines, building materials, and many other things. During this interaction, humans impact the physical environment in many ways: overpopulation, pollution, burning fossil fuels, and deforestation. These changes have triggered many problems such as climate change, soil erosion, poor air quality, and undrinkable water. The main goal of this research agenda is to understand the interconnections between human societies and the natural (or biophysical) environment.

7.9.2 Goal

Broadly, research on environmental sociology falls under four themes

- i The influence of various factors, including demographic, social, cultural, political, and economical on the interaction between the environment and human beings
- ii The social consequences of natural disasters and the inequitable distribution of environmental hazards along racial and socioeconomic lines
- iii Understanding patterns and trends in environmental attitudes and behaviors (e.g., recycling) as well as various aspects of the environmental movement

iv Understanding social processes and dynamics that could advance environmental reform and sustainability